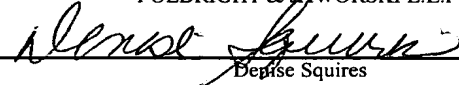


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Denise Squires	

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : WEILER, et al.

Serial No. : PCT/DE97/01332

Filed : 24.06.97

Priority Date : 25.06.96

For : PROCESS FOR COMBINING PARALLEL
OLIGONUCLEOTIDE SYNTHESIS AND PREPARATION
OF OLIGOMER CHIPS

Art Unit :

Examiner :

December 22, 1998

BOX PCT
Hon. Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend this application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, line 1: delete "A process for combining parallel oligonucleotide synthesis" and